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The Urban District Council of Carnforth.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER

OF

HEALTH

FOR THE

Year ended 31st December 1938

Carnforth :
F MAYOH, Bk. Market Street.

1939

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To the Chairman and Members of the Council.

Gentlemen,

In accordance with Article 14 (3) of the Sanitary Officers Order, 1926, I beg to present to you my ANNUAL REPORT as Medical Officer of Health for the Urban District.

This is an Ordinary Report, and is on the lines indicated in Circular 1728 of the Ministry of Health.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

JAMES A. TOMB,

M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H

1939.

Public Health Officers of the Authority.

Medical :

JAMES A. TOMB, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.,
Medical Officer of Health

Others :

FRED HOLT, A.R.San.I., M.S.I.A., Sanitary Inspector
(part time).

(Information relating to the Area and the circumstances of the year).

General Statistics.

Area	1,504 Acres
Population (Census 1931), 3,193. Estimated 1938 ...	3,082
Number of Inhabited Houses end of 1938 according to Rate Book	898
Rateable Value	£15,741
Sum Represented by a Penny Rate	£65

Social Conditions, Including The Chief Occupations Of The Inhabitants.

The social conditions are very satisfactory and the chief occupations of the inhabitants are Railway and Rural workers.

Extracts from Vital Statistics of the year.

		Total	M	F	
Live Births	Legitimate	33	20	13	Birth Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population 11.0
	Illegitimate	1	—	1	
	Total ...	34	20	14	
Still Births		2	—	2	Rate per 1,000. (live & still) Births ... 55
Deaths		26	13	13	Death Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population ... *8.4

Deaths from Puerperal causes—

	Deaths	Death Rate per 1,000 Total (live & still) Births.
Puerperal Sepsis... ...	—	—
Other Puerperal Causes...	—	—
Total	—	Nil

Death Rate of Infants under 1 year of age :

All Infants per 1,000 Live Births	Nil
Legitimate Infants per 1,000 Legitimate Live Births	Nil
Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 Illegitimate Live Births	Nil
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	3.
,, ,, Measles ,, ...	—
,, ,, Whooping Cough (all ages)	—
,, ,, Diarrhœa (under 2 years of age) ...	—

Per 1,000 of Population					Maternal mortality rate		
Mean of 5 years	Live Birth-Rate	Crude Death-Rate	Death-Rate from Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	Death-Rate from Cancer	Per 1000 Live Births	Per 1000 Total (Live and Still) Births	Rate of Deaths under 1 year per 1000 live births
1933-1937 ..	11·2	13·0	0 37	1·38	4·54	4·34	43
Year 1937	9 6	16·0	0·96	1·92	Nil	Nil	66
.. 1938 ..	11·0	*8·4	0 64	0·97	Nil	Nil	Nil

INCREASE OR DECREASE IN 1938 on :—

Five Years Average 1933 1937	—0·2	—4·6	+0·27	—0·41	—4·54	—4·34	—43
Previous Year	+1·4	—7·6	—0·32	—0·95	Nil	Nil	—66

* 1938—Adjusted death-rate (comparability factor 0·94)=7·8 per 1,000.

Tuberculosis.

New Cases and Mortality during the year 1938.

Age Periods.	New Cases				Deaths (The number of deaths classified should agree with the total supplied by the Registrar General)			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Years								
1—5								
5—10								
10—15								
15—20			1	1				
20—25								
25—35								
35—45	1							
45—55		1				1		
Totals	1	1	1	1	—	1	—	—
	2		2		1			

Causes of Death.

	Male	Female
Cancer	1 ...	2
Cerebral Hæmorrhage	1 ...	2
Heart Disease	3 ...	2
Aneurysm	0 ...	2

Causes of Death.—*Continued.*

	Male	Female
Ac: & Chr- Nephritis	1	1
Bronchitis	0	0
Pneumonia, all forms	0	0
Other Respiratory Diseases... ...	1	0
Premature Birth	1	0
Senility	3	2
Other defined Diseases	1	1
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System ...	1	1
Total...	13	Total...13

Compared with 1937 there was a decrease of 24 in the number of deaths.

		Male	Female
Live Births	Legitimate ...	20	13
	Illegitimate	0	1
	Total ...	20	14
Still Births	Legitimate ...	0	2
	Illegitimate	0	0
	Total ...	0	2
Deaths of Infants under 1 year	Legitimate ...	0	0
	Illegitimate...	0	0
	Total ...	0	0

Notifiable Diseases (other than Tuberculosis) during the year 1938.

Disease.	Total Cases All Ages	Under 1	1 to 2	2 to 3	3 to 4	4 to 5	5 to 10	10 to 15	15 to 20	20 to 35	35 to 45	45 to 65	65 & over	Total Deaths	Total Cases Removed to Hospital from the District.	Deaths in Hospital of persons belonging to District.
	Total Cases Notified.														Hospital.	
Scarlet Fever ...	13	...	...	...	..	1	12	...	...	..	...	...	..	.	13	
Diphtheria (including Membranous Croup)		...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	.	...	...	...		
Acute Primary Pneumonia ... Acute Influenzal Pneumonia ...	2		.	.	.	...	..	...	1	..	...	1	...	..	1	
Puerperal Pyrexia ..	2	...	...	..	...	...	.	..	...	1	1	...	...	...	2	
Total...	17	...	...	...	...	1	12		1	1	1	1		...	16	

Disinfectants have been supplied in all cases and contacts inoculated. 19 houses have been fumigated.

Hospitals provided or subsidised by the Local Authority.

Carnforth is one of the constituent authorities to the Lancaster and District Joint Hospital Board.

Ambulance Facilities.

(*a*) For Infectious Cases.

Infectious Cases are removed to the Lancaster & District Joint Hospital in Motor Ambulance belonging to the said Hospital.

(*b*) For Non-Infectious & Accident Cases.

These cases are dealt with by the Police Ambulance owned by the Lancaster Corporation.

Summary (for reference) of Nursing Institutions available for the District.

Professional Nursing in the Home.

There are no Private Nursing Homes in the District from which Nurses can be obtained, the nearest being at Ulverston.

There is available a District Nurse, supplied by the Carnforth Nursing Association, a Voluntary Association, affiliated with the Queen Victoria Jubilee Institute for Nursing.

Institutional Provision for Unmarried Mothers, Illegitimate Infants & Homeless Children.

There is no special provision for these in the District.

The Lancashire County Council have provided a School Clinic and Child Welfare Centre at 21, Market Street, Carnforth.

Midwives.

There is one Midwife registered in the District.

Sewers & Sewage.

The Sewage from the main part of the District is disposed of by running into a settling tank, the liquid running into the river Keer which is a tidal stream. The sludge is used for agricultural purposes. Periodical flushing of all sewers is regularly carried out by means of emptying a ton of water from the water-cart through a twelve-inch valve down the manholes.

The whole of the built up area in the Crag Bank District is now sewered. The sewerage is dealt with by means of disposal plants consisting of screening chambers, settling tanks and filter beds.

The present state of the Closet accommodation in the district is as follows :

Privy Middens, No. of Middens	30
No. of Closets attached to these Middens ...	30
No. of Pail Closets	Nil
No. of Fresh Water Closets	822
No. of Waste Water Closets	46
No. of Dry Ashpits (excluding Middens) ...	43
No. of Moveable Ashbins for Refuse	855

Conversions during the year 1938 :

No. of Privy Closets to Fresh Water W.C.'s ...	Nil
No. of Privies, situate within the Council's present Sewage System	Nil
No. of Houses at which Moveable Ashbins have been substituted for fixed receptacles	242

The Council have decided to abolish all privy middens within the Council's present sewage scheme.

Scavenging.

The collection of House Refuse is carried out by the Council's own staff for the greater portion of the district, the outlying farmers, etc., dealing with their own refuse.

The Refuse is disposed of on the Tipping ground purchased for that purpose.

The number of receptacles emptied are :

	Dwelling Houses
Bins...	855
Ashpits	43
Total...	898

	Churches, Schools, Post Office, etc.
Bins	25
Ashpits	1
Total...	26

Sanitary Inspections.

Number of Premises Visited, 403.

Defects or Nuisances, number discovered, 280; number abated 263.

Number of Notices served (informal), 199.

Statutory, 11.

Legal proceedings, Nil.

Eradication of bed bugs.

No houses were found to be infested.

Factories & Workshops.

The different Factories & Workshops have been regularly inspected, and all are kept in a thoroughly sanitary condition, and answer the requirements of the Act.

Bakehouses.

There are 4 Bakehouses in the District, all are partly above ground, are properly ventilated and well kept.

The Workshops & Factories are as follow :

Bakers & Confectioners	4
Boot & Shoe Repairers	4
Blacksmiths	3
Coach Builders	3
Dressmakers, etc.	4
Gas Works	1
Printers	1
Saw-mill & Joinery works	3
Tailors	1
Tar Macadam Works	1
Total...	25

Slaughterhouses.

There are 3 Slaughterhouses in the District, one being of modern construction, the remaining 2 being corrugated iron and wooden structures.

Lime-Washing has been duly carried out at proper times at these premises.

Cowsheds and Dairies.

The Dairies and Cowsheds have been inspected, and periodical lime-washing carried out.

Milk Samples.

Free milk has been supplied to the Schools by the County Council.

Lodginghouses.

There is no common lodginghouse in the district.

Schools.

The Sanitary condition and Water Supply of the Public Elementary Schools are good.

4.—Housing.

(a) Statistics.

Number Of New Houses Erected During The Year:

(a)	Total (including numbers given separately under (b) ...	5
(i)	By the local authority	Nil
(ii)	By other local authorities...	Nil
(iii)	By other bodies or persons	5
(b)	With State assistance under the Housing Acts:	
(i)	By the local authority (included under (a) (i) above)	Nil
(ii)	By other bodies or persons (included under (a) (iii) above	Nil

1. Inspection Of Dwelling-Houses During The Year:

(1)	(a) Total number of Dwelling-Houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	301
	(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose ...	403
(2)	(a) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above), which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925	Nil
	(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose ...	—
(3)	Number of dwellinghouses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	Nil
(4)	Number of dwellinghouses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	Nil

2. Remedy Of Defects During The Year Without Service Of Formal Notices:—

Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers 280

3. Action Under Statutory Powers During the Year:—

(a) Proceedings Under Sections 9, 10 & 16 of the Housing Act, 1936:

(1)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Notices were served requiring repairs	280
(2)	Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal Notices:—	

(a) By Owners 263

(b) By Local Authority in default of Owners ... Nil

(b) Proceedings Under Public Health Acts:

(1) Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied ... ... Nil

(2) Number of dwellinghouses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices:

(a) By Owners ... ... Nil

(b) By Local Authority in default of Owners ... Nil

(c) Proceedings Under Sections 11 & 13 of The Housing Act, 1936:

(1) Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made ... ... Nil

(2) Number of dwellinghouses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders ... ... Nil

(d) Proceedings Under Section 12 of The Housing Act, 1936:

(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made ... Nil

(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit ... Nil

Housing Act, 1936.—Part IV.—Overcrowding:—

(a) (i) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year 16

(ii) Number of families dwelling therein 16

(iii) Number of persons dwelling therein 121

(b) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year ... ... Nil

(c) (i) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year ... ... Nil

(ii) Number of persons concerned in such cases ... —

Housing Conditions.

1 General Observations As To Housing Conditions :

459 Cottage type and 286 Parlour type built in rows mostly about the year 1880, good standard for that period and generally sound.

148 Detached and Semi-detached, modern good standard and generally sound.

There are no serious defects in any of the properties which would demand service of demolition notice.

There are no back-to-back houses.

2 Sufficiency Of Supply Of Houses.

Overcrowding is reported in 16 houses.

3 Fitness Of Houses.

There is no insanitary property in the area.

4 Unhealthy Areas.

No part of the area is scheduled as unhealthy.

5 Byelaws.

The existing byelaws appear to be adequate and no difficulty has presented itself.

6 The housing administration appears to be generally satisfactory.

Nuisances.

Defective Ashpits	259
Defective Drains and Sinks	10
Defective Water Closets	5
General Defects	5
Defective Cesspools	1
Total...	280

403 visits have been paid inspecting nuisances and work in progress.

Water Supply.

I consider the Water supply satisfactory and pure. It is obtained from the Carnforth Water Company's Reservoir, situate at Withets, capacity 70,000,000 gallons; the gathering ground for which is partly of a peaty and partly of a sandstone nature; consequently, the water is not hard, and is good for all domestic purposes.

The water passes through a system of Carbon Filters before being disposed of to the district. With proper attention given to the frequent changing of the media to the said filters, we should receive less complaints and comments; and speaking generally, be assured of a good and pure supply of water.

In addition to the above reservoir, the Water Company obtain a supply of 2,400,000 gallons per year, from the Manchester Corporation Mains. The outlying farms and cottages are dependant upon springs and wells.

The following table shows the source of water supply:

No. of houses using Water Company's supply	880
No. of houses using Rain and Wells water ...	18

(*Signed*), JAMES A. TOMB, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.